

Remarks/Arguments:

Applicants' claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Oberholzer. Applicants' claims have also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnston in view of Edwards. Various claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnston in view of Collins. A rejection has been made under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Johnston. Finally, a rejection has been made under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Johnston, Collins and Solow. It is respectfully submitted, however, that Applicants' claims are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention as recited by claim 1, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

... a resistor ... including:

side sections ...

an S-shaped section disposed between said side sections,

a trimming portion formed within at least one of said side sections,

a space defined by said S-shaped section ...

highest levels of said substrate are lower at said trimming portion than at said space.

A side view of Applicants' Figure 1 appears below. Figure 1 is also reproduced. Trimming portion 16 and space 17 are shown.

removed while resistor 13 is being formed. However, the originally filed application also explains that trimming groove 16 is formed by laser trimming (specification at page 5, line 18). As is known to one of ordinary skill in the art, laser trimming methodology cannot remove one layer without effecting the underlying layer. Thus, when laser trimming is used to form trimming groove 16, a portion of substrate 11 will be removed.

Thus, the substrate is lower at trimming portion 16 than at space 17.

Applicants have amended Figure 1 to state the difference in substrate heights, again, a difference which would be expected by the use of printing as compared to laser trimming.

The substrate configuration which results from the above processing steps, and which is now claimed, is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

Claim 6 is a method step which specifically recites the steps of printing and trimming. As these steps are neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, claim 6 is patentable over the art or record.

Claim 11, while not identical to claim 1, is patentable for reasons similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1.

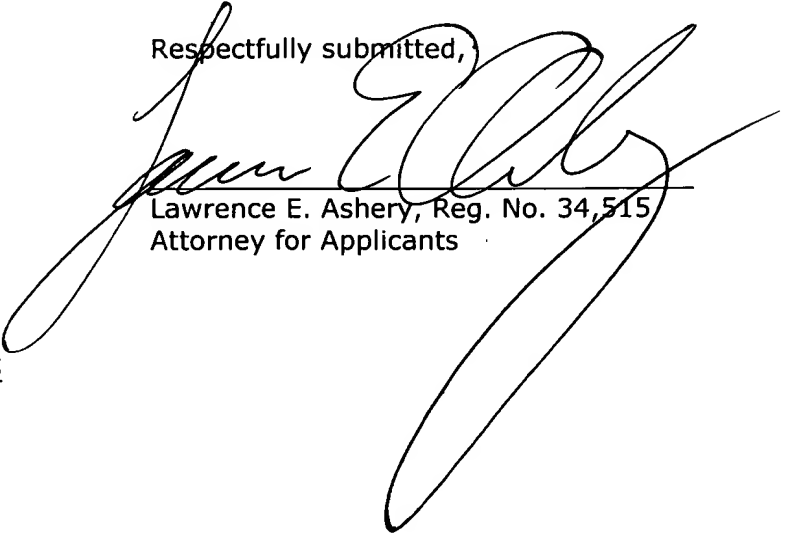
The remaining claims are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claims.

Application No.: 09/871,309
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Reply to Final Office Action of: October 29, 2004

MAT-8140US

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/ds/fp

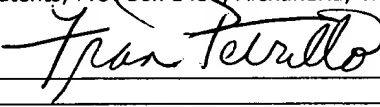
Dated: January 31, 2005

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

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